

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for long-term storage of hereditary information comprising:
providing a genetic sample comprising lyophilized DNA and sugar, wherein the sugar is trehalose or sucrose, the DNA being substantially free of magnesium and with the lyophilized DNA stored in a hermetically sealed UV blocking container under an inert gas; and storing the sample.
- 2-4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the inert gas is nitrogen or argon.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the UV blocking container comprises borosilicate.
7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the sample comprises greater than 20 μg of DNA.
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the sample comprises greater than 100 μg of DNA.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the sample comprises between about 150 and 200 μg of DNA.
10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising lyophilizing the DNA.
11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the DNA is obtained from the blood of a subject.
12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising storing the DNA at a temperature between about -7°C to about 24°C .
13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the sample further comprises ~~TRIS~~ or EDTA.
14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the DNA is genomic DNA.
15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising isolating DNA.

Claims 16 - 30 (Withdrawn)

31. (Currently amended) A method for long-term storage of hereditary information comprising:
providing a genetic sample comprising lyophilized DNA and sugar, wherein the sugar is trehalose or sucrose, the DNA being substantially free of magnesium and with the lyophilized DNA stored in a hermetically sealed UV blocking container under an inert gas; and
placing the sealed UV blocking container into a holding member that is inserted into an aperture of a box that together forms a kit for the long-term storage of hereditary information; and storing the sample.
32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the inert gas is nitrogen or argon.
34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the sample comprises greater than 20 μg of DNA.
35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 further comprising storing the DNA at a temperature between about -7°C to about 24°C .
36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the DNA is genomic DNA.
37. (Currently amended) The method of claim 31 wherein the holder member holds ~~(4)~~ four hermetically sealed containers of the lyophilized DNA and sugar.
38. (Cancelled)
39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the box is comprised of cardboard.
40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the holder member is comprised of a transparent plastic.